Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 05008 171750Z ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00 AID-01 /028 W

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O 171743Z MAR 7 FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9214 INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

CONFIDENTIAL MOSCOW 05008

E.O. 11652

TAGS: OREP (PRICE, MELVIN)

SUBJECT: CODEL PRICE - WREATH LAYING CEREMONIES

- 1. GIVEN STRONG SOVIET FEELINGS ABOUT THEIR SACRIFICES DURING WORLD WAR II, RECOMMEND THAT THE DELEGATION HEAD AND OTHER MEMBERS DF THE DELEGATION AS DESIRED PARTICIPATE IN WREATH LAYING CEREMONIES AT APPROPRIATE WAR MEMORIALS IN ALL THREE CITIES. THESE WOULD BE THE PISKARYOV MEMORIAL CEMETARY IN LENINGRAD, THE TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER IN MOSCOW AND THE WAR MEMORIAL IN KIEV.
- 2. THESE CEREMONIES MUST BE COORDINATED WITH THE RESPECTIVE MILITARY DISTRICT COMMANDS REGARDING PRECISE TIME OF PRESENTATION. ON MINISTRY OF DEFENSE'S ADVICE, WE RECOMMEND MORNING PRESENTATIONS AT 0930 PRIOR TO THE BEGINNING OF THE DAY'S CALLS IN EACH CITY: SUN, MAR 26 IN LENINGRAD; TUES, MAR 28 IN MOSCOW; AND FRI, MAR 31 IN KIEV. WREATHS ARE ESTIMATED TO COST BETWEEN 50 AND 60 RUBLES (\$75-90) EACH.
- 3. WE ALSO SUGGEST THAT THE DELEGATION MAKE A BRIEF STOP AT APPROXIMATELY 1415 ON SAT, 26 MAR TO LAY FLOWERS AT THE LENINGRAD WAR MEMORIAL WHICH IS LOCATED DIRECTLY ALONG THE ROUTE ON THE WAY IN FROM THE AIRPORT. FLOWERS SHOULD COST CONFIDENTIAL

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AROUND \$10.

4. REQUEST CODEL COMMENTS. TOON

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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TAGS: OREP, (PRICE, MELVIN)

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